

Listing of the Claims:

Below is a listing of all claims using a strikethrough and underlining to show changes.

1. (Currently Amended) A power source circuit for a cell for controlling transfer of electric energy from said cell to loads, wherein a device employing said power source circuit is operated in a manner that, when a discharge voltage of said cell becomes lower than an operation lower limit voltage of said device to be operated, a voltage output from said power source circuit for said cell is made higher than said operation lower limit voltage of said device by using a voltage increasing unit, and wherein an amount of voltage drop in said cell per unit time is employed as a factor for detecting termination of discharge of said cell.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently amended) A power source circuit for a cell for controlling transfer of electric energy from said cell to loads, said power source circuit comprising a cell voltage detecting circuit to detect a voltage of said cell, a discharge controlling circuit, an output voltage detecting circuit, a step-up DC-DC converter, a switching circuit to switch a positive electrode of said cell to either of an output terminal of said power source circuit or an inputting section of said step-up DC-DC converter, and a power storing section mounted in an outputting section of said power source circuit,

wherein said device employing said power source cell is operated in a manner that, when a discharge voltage of said cell becomes lower than an operation lower limit voltage of said device to be operated, a voltage output from said power source circuit for said cell is made higher than said operation lower limit voltage of said device by using said step-up DC-DC converter, and

wherein an amount of voltage drop in said cell per unit time is employed as a factor for detecting termination of discharge of said cell.

4. Canceled

5. (Original) The power source circuit for a cell according to Claim 3, wherein said power storing section comprises an electric double layer capacitor.

6. (Currently Amended) A power source circuit for a cell for controlling transfer of electric energy from said cell to loads, said power source circuit comprising a cell voltage detecting circuit to detect a voltage of said cell, a control circuit, an output voltage detecting circuit, a step-up DC-DC converter, an inductor, two or more switching circuits, a power storing section mounted in said outputting section, wherein said device employing said power source cell is operated in a manner that, when a discharge voltage of said cell becomes lower than an operation lower limit voltage of said device to be operated, a voltage output from said power source circuit for said cell is made higher than said operation lower limit voltage of said device by using said step-up DC-DC converter, and wherein an amount of voltage drop in said cell per unit time is employed as a factor for detecting termination of discharge of said cell.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Original) The power source circuit for a cell according to Claim 6, wherein said power storing section comprises an electric double layer capacitor.

9. (Currently Amended) A cell pack comprising a cell, a power source circuit for said cell for controlling transfer of electric energy from said cell to loads, and a case for housing the power source circuit and the cell therein,

wherein a device employing said power source circuit is operated in a manner that, when a discharge voltage of said cell becomes lower than an operation lower limit voltage of said device to be operated, a voltage output from said power source circuit for said cell is made higher than said operation lower limit voltage of said device by using a voltage increasing unit, and wherein an amount of voltage drop in said cell per unit time is employed as a factor for detecting termination of discharge of said cell.

10. (Original) The cell pack according to Claim 9, wherein said cell is a primary cell or a secondary cell.

11. (Original) A cell pack comprising a cell, a power source circuit for said cell for controlling transfer of electric energy from said cell to loads, and a case for housing the power source circuit and the cell therein,

wherein said power source circuit comprises a cell voltage detecting circuit to detect a voltage of said cell, a discharge controlling circuit, an output voltage detecting circuit, a step-up DC-DC converter, a switching circuit to switch a positive electrode of said cell to either of an output terminal of said power source circuit or an inputting section of said step-up DC-DC converter, and a power storing section mounted in an outputting section of said power source circuit, wherein said device employing said power source cell is operated in a manner that, when a discharge voltage of said cell becomes lower than an operation lower limit voltage of said device to be operated, a voltage output from said power source circuit for said cell is made higher than said operation lower limit voltage of said device by using said step-up DC-DC converter.

12. (Original) The cell pack according to Claim 11, wherein said cell is a primary cell or a secondary cell.

13. (Currently Amended) A cell pack comprising a cell, a power source circuit for said cell for controlling transfer of electric energy from said cell to loads, and a case for housing the power source circuit and the cell therein,

wherein said power source circuit comprises a cell voltage detecting circuit to detect a voltage of said cell, a control circuit, an output voltage detecting circuit, a step-up DC-DC converter, an inductor, two or more switching circuits, a power storing section mounted in said outputting section, wherein said device employing said power source cell is operated in a manner that, when a discharge voltage of said cell becomes lower than an operation lower limit voltage of said device to be operated, a voltage output from said power source circuit for said cell is made higher than said operation lower limit voltage of said device by using said step-up DC-DC converter, and wherein an amount of voltage

drop in said cell per unit time is employed as a factor for detecting termination of discharge of said cell.

14. (Original) The cell pack according to Claim 13, wherein said cell is a primary cell or a secondary cell.